

St. John Armenian Church, 22011 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI 48075

(248)569-3405

www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

A Message from our Chair...



2020 has been an extraordinary year met with challenges we have never faced before.

We managed to hold an election and a successful sell out, "Holiday Bake Sale" fundraiser without gathering together in a group of 10 or more.

Enclosed you will see our calendar for 2021. It is subject to change based on our current Covid restrictions, conflicting dates or anything else that could force a change. It is my hope to see each and every member on a committee for projects this year. I encourage everyone to look at our commitments with a new mindset.

On January 6th we have Armenian Christmas service. January 7th we will have a general body meeting via zoom. There are 2 new guild gatherings video coming January 14th and 28th and a possible Manoogian Manor visit on January 16th. Look for more info to come.

I would like to thank the past chairman, Denise Karakashian, for her skilled leadership this past crazy "Covid" year. I would also like to thank every past board and guild member for making what might have seemed to be impossible, possible.

Wishing you the warmest Christmas and New Year.

Christos Dznnav and Yev Haydnetsav; Ohrnyial eh Haydnootiunn Christosee.

Christ is born and revealed to us. Blessed is the revelation of Christ.

Denise Boyagian



We are deeply saddened to share the news that our dear member, Helen Olsen, sister of Alice Safilian and niece Gail Safilian, passed away on December 11, 2020.

Our deepest condolences to Alice Safilian on the loss of her beloved husband and to Gail Safilian for the loss of her dear father, Armen Safilian, on December 17, 2020.

-Asdvadz Hokeeneruh Losavoreh



Congratulations to Sandy and Greg Jamian on the birth of their granddaughter, Cleo Jamian Spinelli, born on December 7, 2020. Proud parents are Alexis Jamian and Antonello Spinelli of Geneva, Switzerland.

Linda and Bob DePeitro are thrilled to announce the arrival of their third grandson! Cameron Joseph DePeitro was born on December 12, 2020 to proud first time parents Michael and Kerry DePietro.



Craig Harabedian, son of Linda Kemian-Franquist, was married to Rebecca Rutishauser on October 23, 2020. Best wishes to the happy couple!



We have a few more directory corrections to add:

Nora Noraian – new email - n.norahye5@gmail.com
Ida Varadian – new land line number - (248)562-7393.

If you have any contact information changes, please reach out to Paulette Apkarian (248)896-2339 or pauletteapkarian@aol.com

Do you like to talk on the phone??? Interested in making new friends???



Our outreach phone call program is for you!

Volunteers will have a list of ladies from our Women's Guild to reach out to during these trying times. Your list of friends will change every month. It's a great way to get to know new people and to share what is happening in your lives!

Please contact Marianne Dardarian if you're interested.
(248)225-3823/ mhdardarian@att.net

If you have an announcement you would like to share, please email Nyree Giragosian nyreevgir@gmail.com or call (248)231-2547. Deadline is the 22nd



Manoogian Manor Armenian Christmas Visit


Saturday, January 16, 2021

Please join our clergy, members of the gomidas choir,
and the women's guild as we spend the morning in prayer,
singing, and good will with the residents of Manoogian manor.

(date subject to change due to COVID-19 restrictions)

Please reach out to Elise Papazian for more information

elisepkp@gmail.com

Wed., Jan. 6 th 	Armenian Christmas Divine Liturgy - 10am Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Blessing of the Waters <i>After services drive up lahmajoon luncheon pickup at Vets Building</i>
Thurs., Jan. 7 th	Women's Guild General Body Meeting – 7:00 Zoom
Wed., Jan. 13 th	Guild Gatherings on YouTube – “Bake an apple pie with a lattice-woven top” by Dolly.
Sat., Jan. 16 th	Manoogian Manor Armenian Christmas visit. Please contact Elise Papazian for more information elisepkp@gmail.com
Wed., Jan. 20 th	Executive Board Meeting – 7:00pm - Zoom
Wed., Jan. 27 th	Guild Gatherings on YouTube – “Meditations for lifestyle” by Carole.
Wed., Feb. 3 rd	Women's Guild General Body Meeting - 7:00 Zoom
Sat., Feb. 6 th	World Medical Relief 1:00-3:30 - Contact Edith Baise (313)673-3325 (Up to 20 volunteers)
Sun., Feb. 28 th	St. John's Armenian Church Parish Assembly

**IMPORTANT
DATES**



Our Planning outreach program needs your help!!



Planning is a form of crocheting with plastic bags to make blankets and pillows for the homeless. The shelters hand them out faster than volunteers can make them. It's very easy and you can find the demonstration on our YouTube Guild Gatherings page. Please call Edith Blaise with any questions about how to participate (313)673-3325.

Congratulations!

Wishing all of our newly elected Women's Guild Board, Nominating Committee, and Diocesan Delegates a successful year!

2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Guild members elected for 2 year term

***Designates newly elected members**

Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian
(248)569-3405 Cell: (773)457-4122
fraren@sjachurch.org

Rev. Fr. Armash Bagdasarian, Guild Liaison
(248)569-3405 Cell: (201)665-9686
frarmash@sjachurch.org

Denise Boyagian, Chairman
Cell: (248)280-9739
dboyagian@yahoo.com

Marianne Dardarian, Vice-Chairman
(248)661-0617 Cell: (248)802-6917
mhdardarian@att.net

Jacqueline ElChemmas, Treasurer
Cell: (248)762-1312
jackieelch@gmail.com

Paulette Apkarian, Asst. Treasurer/Membership
(248)225-3823
pauletteapkarian@aol.com

Dawn Aginian, Recording Secretary
(248)225-7176
dawnaginian@gmail.com

Edith Baise, Corresponding Secretary
Cell: (313)673-3325
ebaise@umich.edu

Nyree Giragosian, Newsletter
(248)347-6654 Cell: (248)231-2547
nyreevgir@gmail.com

*Carol Cholmakjian, Advisor
(248)592-0392 Cell: (917)680-9831
ccholmak@hotmail.com

Alice Mekjian, Advisor
(248)747-7503 Cell: (248)880-4784
imdancin115@yahoo.com

NON-VOTING BOARD MEMBERS

Sara Andonian, 2nd Alternate
Cell: 248-515-9264/
andoniansl@gmail.com

Marilyn Dadian, Parish Council Liaison
(248)644-1960 Cell: (248)882-0935
dadian@comcast.com

Denise Karakashian, Past Chairman
(248)489-4076 Cell: (248)701-5906
denisekar@hotmail.com

Marilyn Sarkesian, 1st Alternate
248-332-6570, Cell: 248-933-3361
marilysarkesian@hotmail.com

2020 NOMINATING COMMITTEE **(Meet in fall to prepare a slate for November Meeting)**

Patricia Akkashain
Charlene Apigian
Renee Apkarian – *Nominating Committee Chair*
Alice Argnian
Nora Noraian
Paulette Schmidt (Alternate)

2021 Women's Guild **Central Council Delegates** **(Elected for a one-year term)**

Denise Boyagian, Women's Guild Chair
Yvonne Korkoian
Linda Jevahirian
Rozann Vartoogian



THE WOMEN'S GUILD
OF
ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH • SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

PRESENTS

‘GUILD GATHERINGS’
A SERIES OF CREATIVE VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13
BAKE AN APPLE PIE WITH A LATICE-WOVEN TOP
BY DOLLY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27
MEDITATIONS FOR REINVENTING YOUR LIFESTYLE
BY CAROLE

CLICK ON THE LINK!

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgaajJ5B0l5V_fCalkqdiHwLZU3qTyV7l

Each published video will remain on the *Guild Gatherings* site to be viewed as often as desired.



ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH VOLUNTEER DAYS AT WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF

St. John Armenian Church members volunteer at World Medical Relief several times a year sorting medical supplies and equipment to send to countries around the world that are in bad need for these supplies which help the sick and poor.

Join us and help sort badly needed medical supplies and equipment to be used locally and around the world.

No experience necessary!

21725 Melrose Avenue, Southfield

Off Lahser between 8 and 9 mile Rd

Saturday, February 6th - 1:00pm-3:30pm

Contact Edith Baise with any questions

and to make your reservations (313)673-3325 – up to 20 volunteers can participate

SHORTS ARE FINE, BUT SHOES MUST BE CLOSED-TOE FOR SAFETY REASONS.
DRESS IS CASUAL AND COMFORTABLE.
FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE ALSO WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE.

AGES START AT MIDDLE SCHOOL AND UP AND ARRANGEMENT CAN BE MADE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE CREDIT

Helping Our Homeland

In this time of crises, your continued prayers are needed for our soldiers and people in Artsakh. Additionally, Armenia's government is looking to the diaspora for financial support.

You can donate on the secure website of the Eastern Diocese (choose

"Artsakh/Armenia Relief" in the dropdown menu) armenianchurch.us

or you can mail a check to the:

Diocese of the Armenian
Church of America
(Eastern)

630 Second Avenue,
New York, NY 10016

Please write "Artsakh Relief" on the
memo line of the check.

All funds collected will support civilian humanitarian aid



St John Women's Guild

2020 Cookie Sale

Cookies! And, more cookies! All thanks to our Women's Guild members and friends, that came forward to support this first-time adventure that has proved to be a great success. Our board was looking forward to one more Guild event that would help to raise funds, supporting our many Guild activities and outreach, in this unusual time. Another bake sale would have been swell, but a cookie sale! - now that's an idea whose time has come back.

We are pleased to say that we are sold out! And, from the moment that our satisfied followers opened their treasure boxes, the calls started to come in looking for an extra box, advising us to raise our prices and when will ordering begin next year. A special thank you to Carol Cholmakjian and Joy Callan for leading the charge of all of our wonderful members and friends. Of course, none of this could have happened without unlimited accommodation of our excellent St John church staff for this project.

Thank you to everyone that made those calls possible. It looks like this cookie sale might have been the "first annual"! We also featured our Guild cook books, a cookie booklet, aprons, etc.

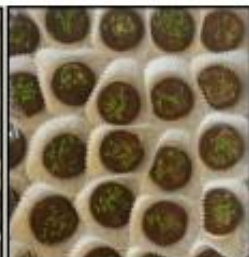
Bravo to; Sara A, Charlene A, Paulette A, Renee A, Cathy A, Ygn Maran B, Nancy B, Sara B/S, Denise B, Joy C, Carol C, Marianne D, Linda D/K, Paula D, Jackie E, Diane E, Linda F, Adrena H, Linda J, Belinda K, Dawn K, Denise K, Patty K, Ygn Roberta K, Lynn K, Dolly M, Janice M., Diane N, Nora N, Terry P, Nancy P, Susie R, Marilyn S, Anna S, Paulette S, Linda S, Linda T, Sue V, Diana V, Debbie Z, AnneMarie Z/A, and Cathy Z.

***Take a look at the following page
for pictures!!!
The cookies and boxes look amazing!***

2020 Winter Fundraiser Holiday Bake Box Assembly



SJAC Safe Distancing Protocol in Effect



Women's Guild Knitting Group



Jean Sarkisian, Women's Guild member and mother of Mariann Zamanigian, has been knitting up a storm! She has donated all her items to the Women's Guild Knitting Group. Cathy Zwinck accepted them and took them to Covenant House in Detroit. They provide support for homeless young people between the ages of 18 and 24, helping them to become independent. They were very happy to receive the knitted goods from our Women's Guild. We would like to recognize and thank Mrs. Sarkisian for her efforts. By sharing her talents, she has made a difference in the lives of the people looking for help at Covenant House, and helped our knitting group and here in the Detroit area. A special thank you to Cathy Zwinck (shown) for taking the time to deliver the beautiful, much needed knitted items.



A very special thank you to Sue Vian for her tireless efforts year after year supporting "Alternatives for Girls". The letter below shows just how much they appreciate Sue and the St. John Women's Guild.



903 West Grand Boulevard • Detroit, Michigan 48208-2365
Business Line 313-361-4000 • Toll Free Crisis Line 888-AFG-3919 • Fax 313-361-8938
www.alternativesforgirls.org

November 11, 2020

St. John's Armenian Church Women's Guild
Ms. Sue Vian
418 E 3rd St
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067-2756

Dear Ms. Vian and Friends,

We can't say thank you enough!

Thank you for your heartfelt donation ... these items are genuinely appreciated and needed throughout our programming.

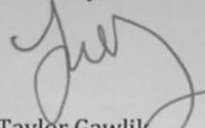


Thanks to you, a girl or young woman who faces obstacles in violence, teen pregnancy, and exploitation, now has the resources and opportunities necessary to be safe, to grow strong and to make positive choices in her life. Your support not only allows Alternatives For Girls to respond to her needs through shelter, crisis intervention, academic support, and life skills, but it also means she can start planning her bright future today!

We are so profoundly moved by your heartfelt generosity to invest in the lives of girls and young women, and we know you care about their success as much as we do.

Thank you for your belief in them, and investing in their growth. It truly makes a difference in the future of our girls and young women's success.

Sincerely,


Taylor Gawlik
Development Coordinator

P.S. Please contact me at any time if you have questions or feedback. I can be reached at (313)361-4000 ext. 273 or at tgawlik@alternativesforgirls.org.

IRS rules require me to state that no goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution.

WOW. You all are beyond words incredible. These items are exactly what the girls and young women need. Now that it is getting cold and family holidays are approaching, a warm shower goes along way. A calming scent of lavender and smooth hands can make any woman feel like a queen. Thank you for providing the basic necessities for some fantastic women. We could not do what we do without you.

Greetings to all
St. John Women's Guild Members
It's time to pay your 2021 annual dues!

Please make checks of \$25 to St. John Women's Guild

Mail checks to Paulette Apkarian

7430 Brookberry Court
West Bloomfield, Michigan 48322

For questions, please contact Paulette Apkarian at 248-225-3823

or pauletteapkarian@aol.com

Please fill out the form below and mail it with your payment

2021_____2022_____

Name_____

Address_____

Cell Phone_____Home Phone_____

Email_____

Women's Guild Calendar 2021

January 6	Armenian Christmas Service	May 26	New Guild Gatherings video published
January 6	After Armenian Christmas service drive up lunch from vets building	June 2	Membership Dinner and General Body meeting- Cultural Hall 6:00 pm
January 7	General Body meeting, 7:00 pm, zoom webinar	July ?	Summer outing- date TBD
January 14	New Guild Gatherings video published	June 9	New Guild Gatherings video published
January 16	Manoogian Manor visit- Armenian Christmas	June 16	Exec. Board meeting, 7:00 pm
January 20	Executive Board meeting, 7:00 pm, zoom	June 23	New Guild Gatherings video published
January 28	New Guild Gatherings video published	July & August	No meetings – summer break
February 3	General Body meeting, 7:00 pm, zoom webinar	July 17	Manoogian Manor visit- Transfiguration of our Lord
February 10	New Guild Gatherings video published	August 15	Church Picnic and bake sale
February 17	Executive Board meeting, (after Lenten services) 8:00 pm, zoom	August 21	Manoogian Manor visit- Assumption of the Holy Mother of God
February 24	New Guild Gatherings video published	September 1	General Body meeting 7:00 pm
March 3	General Body meeting, (after Lenten services) 8:00 pm, zoom webinar	September 8	New Guild Gatherings video published
March ?	Saintly Women's Day observance	September 15	Exec. Board meeting, 7:00 pm
March 10	New Guild Gatherings video published	September 18	Manoogian Manor visit- Exaltation of the Holy Cross
March 17	Executive Board meeting, (after Lenten services) 8:00 pm, zoom	September 22	New Guild Gatherings video published
March 24	New Guild Gatherings video published	October 1-3	St. John Bazaar
March 28	Palm Sunday bake sale	October 6	General Body meeting 7:00 pm
April 10	Manoogian Manor visit- Easter	October 13	New Guild Gatherings video published
April 7	General Body meeting, 7:00 pm, zoom webinar	October 20	Exec. Board meeting, 7:00 pm
April 14	New Guild Gatherings video published	October 27	New Guild Gatherings video published
April 21	Executive Board meeting, 7:00 pm, zoom	November 3	Alternatives for Girls- 6:30 pm
April 28	New Guild Gatherings video published	November 10	General Body meeting and elections, 7:00 pm
May 5	General Body meeting, 7:00 pm, zoom webinar	November 17	New Guild Gatherings video published
May 12	New Guild Gatherings video published	November 24	Exec. Board meeting, 7:00 pm
May 19	Exec. Board meeting, 7:00 pm, zoom	December 1	New Guild Gatherings video published
		December 8	Advent by Candlelight
		December 8	Christmas dinner meeting, 6:30 pm- Cultural Hall
		December 15	New Guild Gatherings video published
		December 22	Exec. Board meeting, 7:00 pm
			New Guild Gatherings video published